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Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 26 with the following amended paragraph:

In this section we summarize the field equations for the classical stress-resultant shell model. Here we follow the elegant formulation by Simo et a.l (J.C. Simo and D.D. Fox, "On a stress resultant geometrically exact shell model part i: Formulation and optimal parameterization," Comput. Methods Appl. Mech. Engrg., 72:267-304, 1989; J.C. Simo, D.D. Fox, and M.S. Rifai, "On a stress resultant geometrically exact shell model part ii: The linear theory; computational aspects," Comput. Methods Appl. Mech. Engrg., 73:53-92, 1989) of the Reissner-Mindlin theory, which we specialize to Kirchhoff-Love theory by explicitly constraining the shell director to remain normal to the deformed middle surface of the shell. Throughout the present work we confine our attention to the linear theory of shells under static loading. In Sections below we briefly summarize the relevant aspects of the standard finite-element discretization of the Kirchhoff-Love thin-shell theory.